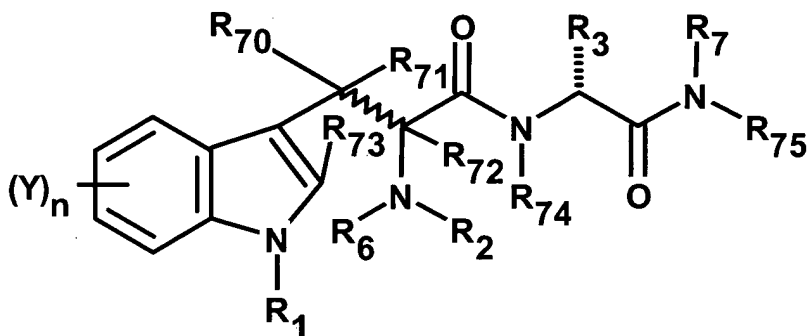


IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1-4 shown below.

1. (Currently Amended) A compound of general formula I



wherein:

R₁ and R₇₀ independently represent a hydrogen atom or an optionally substituted alkyl or acyl group with the proviso that when R₇₁ is hydrogen as hereinafter described, R₇₀ is not hydrogen;

R₂ represents a hydrogen atom or an optionally substituted alkyl or acyl group;

R₇₃ represents a hydrogen atom or an optional substituent;

Y represents an optional substituent;

n represents 0, 1, 2, 3, or 4;

R₃ represents a hydrogen atom, or an optionally substituted alkyl group;

R₇₄ represents a hydrogen atom, a hydroxy group or an optionally substituted alkyl or acyl group;

R₇ represents a hydrogen atom or an alkyl group;

R₇₅ represents an optionally substituted alkyl group or -Q'-C(O)X, wherein Q' is an optionally substituted -CH₂-, -CH₂CH₂-, -CH₂CH₂CH₂-, -CH₂CH=CH-, -CH₂C/C- or phenylene, X is -OR₈, -SR₈, or -NR₉R₁₀, and R₈, R₉ and R₁₀ independently represent a hydrogen atom or an optionally substituted alkyl group; and

i) R₆ represents a hydrogen atom, an acyl group or an optionally substituted alkyl group; and R₇₁ independently represent represents a hydrogen atom or an optionally substituted alkyl or acyl group; and R₇₂ represents a hydrogen atom; or

ii) R₆ represents a hydrogen atom or an optionally substituted alkyl or acyl group and R₇₁ and R₇₂ are joined together such that a double bond is formed between the carbon atoms to which they are attached;

with the proviso that when

R₆, R₇, R₇₀ and R₇₁ are methyl;

R₂, R₇₂, R₇₃ and R₇₄ are hydrogen;

R₃ is t-butyl;

R₇₅ is -CH(CH(CH₃)₂)C(H)=C(CH₃)COOH; and

n is 0, R₁ is not methyl.

2. (Currently Amended) A compound of claim 1, wherein

R₁ represents a hydrogen atom;

R₂ represents a hydrogen atom, or an alkyl group, or an acyl group;

R₃ represents a hydrogen atom, or an optionally substituted alkyl group;

n represents 0;

~~R₇₀ and R₇₄ independently represent~~ represents a hydrogen atom or optionally substituted alkyl group;

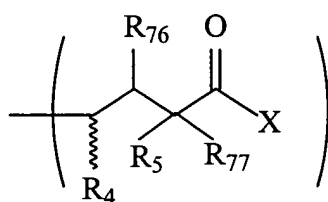
R₇₁ represents a hydrogen atom or optionally substituted alkyl group;

R₇₂, R₇₃ and R₇₄ represent hydrogen atoms;

R₇ represents a hydrogen atom or an alkyl group;

R₆ represents a hydrogen atom, or an optionally substituted alkyl group;

R₇₅ represents a group of general formula III,



III,

wherein R₄ represents a hydrogen atom, or an optionally substituted alkyl group;
R₅ represents a hydrogen atom or an alkyl group; R₇₆ and R₇₇ each represent a hydrogen atom or R₇₆ and R₇₇ are joined so that a C=C bond is formed between the carbon atoms to which R₇₆ and R₇₇ are attached; and X represents a group -OR₈ or a group -NR₉R₁₀, wherein R₈, R₉ and R₁₀ independently represent a hydrogen atom or an optionally substituted alkyl group.

3. (Currently Amended) A compound of claim 1, wherein

R₁ represents a hydrogen atom or an alkyl group;

R₂ represents an acyl group;

R₃ represents a hydrogen atom, or an optionally substituted alkyl group;

n represents 0;

~~R₇₀ and R₇₄ independently represent~~ represents a hydrogen atom or optionally substituted alkyl group;

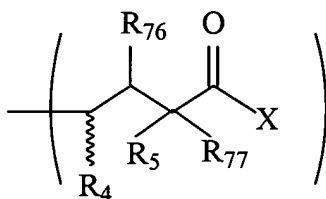
R₇₁ represents a hydrogen atom or optionally substituted alkyl group;

R₇₂, R₇₃ and R₇₄ represent hydrogen atoms;

R₇ represents a hydrogen atom or an alkyl group;

R₆ represents a hydrogen atom, or an optionally substituted alkyl group;

R₇₅ represents a group of general formula III,



III,

wherein R₄ represents a hydrogen atom, or an optionally substituted alkyl group; R₅ represents a hydrogen atom or an alkyl group; R₇₆ and R₇₇ each represent a hydrogen atom or R₇₆ and R₇₇ are joined so that a C=C bond is formed between the carbon atoms to which R₇₆ and R₇₇ are attached; and X represents a group -OR₈ or a group -NR₉R₁₀, wherein R₈, R₉ and R₁₀ independently represent a hydrogen atom or an optionally substituted alkyl group.

4. (Currently Amended) A compound of claim 1, wherein

R₁ represents a hydrogen atom or an alkyl group;

R₂ represents a hydrogen atom, or an alkyl group, or an acyl group;

R₃ represents a hydrogen atom, or an optionally substituted alkyl group;

n represents 0;

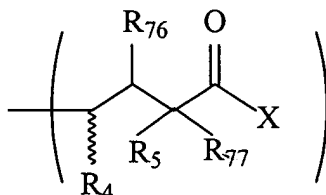
~~R₇₀ and R₇₄ independently represent~~ represents a hydrogen atom or optionally substituted alkyl group;

R₇₁ represents a hydrogen atom or optionally substituted alkyl group;

R₇₂, R₇₃ and R₇₄ represent hydrogen atoms;

R₆ represents a hydrogen atom, or an optionally substituted alkyl group;

R₇₅ represents a group of general formula III,



III,

wherein R₄ represents a hydrogen atom, or an optionally substituted alkyl group; R₅ represents a hydrogen atom or an alkyl group; R₇₆ and R₇₇ each represent a hydrogen atom or R₇₆ and R₇₇ are joined so that a C=C bond is formed between the carbon atoms to which R₇₆ and R₇₇ are attached; and X represents a group -OR₈ or a group -NR₉R₁₀, wherein R₉ and R₁₀ independently represent a hydrogen atom or an optionally substituted alkyl group.

5-7. (Canceled)

8. (Previously Presented) The compound of claim 1, wherein

R₇₅ is -Q'-C(O)X;

Q' is optionally substituted -CH₂CH=CH-;

X is OH;

R₇₀ and R₇₁ are optionally substituted alkyl; and

R₂ and R₆ are different and each are selected from hydrogen or methyl.

9. (Previously Presented) A composition comprising a compound of claim 1 in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

10. (Previously Presented) The compound of claim 2, wherein R₇₀ and R₇₁ are methyl groups.

11. (Previously Presented) The compound of claim 3, wherein R₇₀ and R₇₁ are methyl groups.

12. (Previously Presented) The compound of claim 4, wherein R₇₀ and R₇₁ are methyl groups.

13. (Previously Presented) A composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier together with a compound according to claim 1 in an amount effective to inhibit growth of tumor cells.